

MOTHER KEEPER

01

マザーキーパー



空廻カイリ



MOTHER KEEPER

01

Kaili Sorano



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...by
destiny...

Guided
...

No.001 LEDEN



マザーキーパー①



HEY!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STAY HOME! WE HAVE IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO TALK ABOUT HERE!

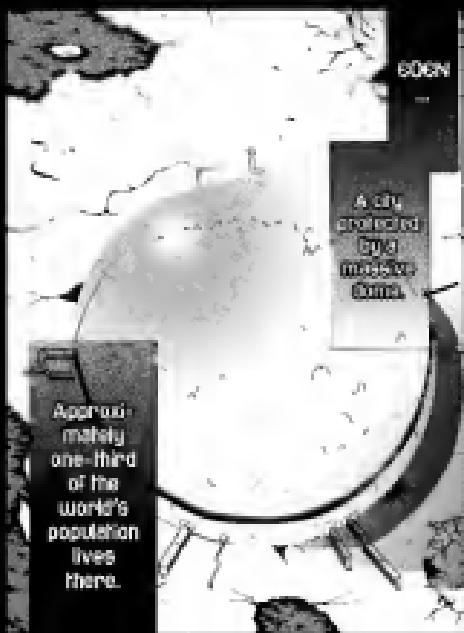




マザーキーパー①



In this time and place, humanity has split into two groups:



...the world burned.

In the past... during a great war...

EDEN, built to raise humanity and civilization from the ashes, is a world apart from the wastes outside.

Now the world's population has shrunk to approximately one billion, one-sixth of its peak during the Golden Age.

It burned in the great fires of "Armageddon"...

...reducing the Earth to desert and wasteland.

Brimming
with
clean
water
and
air.

But not all of
humanity may
live there.

It is just
like the
paradise
evoked by
the name.

Out of
resentment
towards the
OOTH crowd
to them,
several
terrorist
organizations
have sprung
up, collectively
called "the
Resistance".

...upon a
withered
land.

These
unproductive
to society are
cast out from
EDEN, left
to eke out
a harsh
existence...



This
is my
squad.



One of these,
"COSMOS",
is a resistance
force of talented
orphans, hand-
picked and trained
by Graham
Gregeon.

HEAVEN'S
TOWER, IN
THE VERY
HEART OF
THE CITY.

THE
"MOTHER
COMPUTER" ...
WHICH IS OUR
TARGET FOR
TONIGHT.

ALL
OF ITS
IMPORTANT
AGENCIES
ARE
LOCATED
THESE.

IS
EDEN'S
NERVE
CENTER.

THE
GOVERN-
MENT IS
MERELY A
COVER
FOR THE
REAL
POWER
BEHIND
EDEN:

BUT THIS
TIME, OUR
TARGET IS
NOT THE
GOVERN-
MENT.

BUT
APPARENTLY,
THAT
COMPUTER
MANAGES
ALL OF
EDEN'S
HIGHER
FUNC-
TIONS.

IT'S
2-CLASS
TOP SECRET,
SO ALL WE
KNOW IS
THAT IT
EXISTS.

WE'VE
JUST
RECEIVED
WORD
FROM OUR
SPIES.

WHICH
MEANS

THE
MOTHER
COMPUT-
ER...?

MY SQUAD WILL CREATE A DIVERSION IN THE AREA AROUND HEAVEN'S TOWER. MEANWHILE, A DETACHED FORCE WILL INFILTRATE THROUGH THE SEWERS...

...AND DESTROY THAT COMPUTER.

THE OTHER RESISTANCE GROUPS HAVE BEEN INACTIVE LATELY.

NOW, WHILE EDEN'S DEFENSES HAVE BLACKED OUT, IS THE PERFECT TIME TO ATTACK.

WIPE IT ALL OUT, AND PARADISE VANISHES.



THE OPERATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT TOMORROW AT 0300 HOURS.

BE ON TIME AND READY TO ACT!



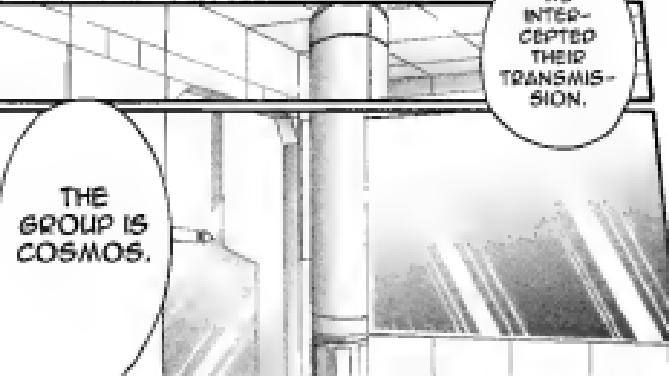


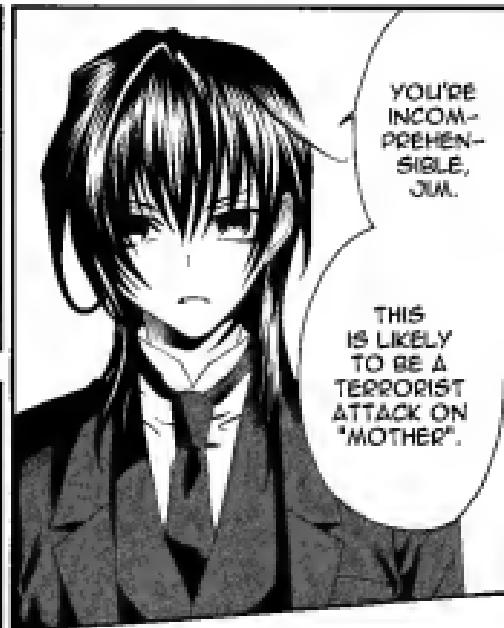


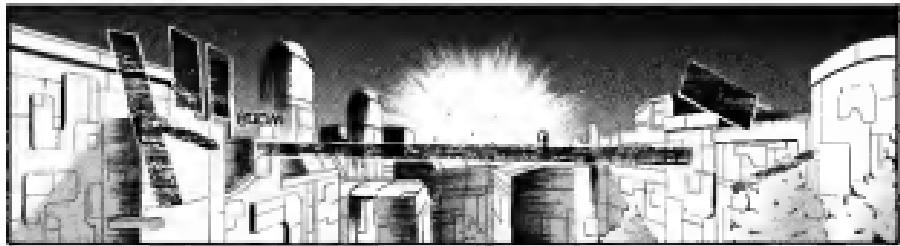






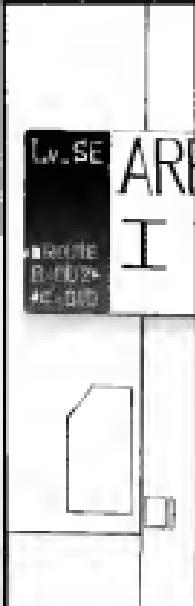








THEY'RE CURRENTLY BATTLED ARMORED TROOPS AND SECURITY PANELS IN AREA I.

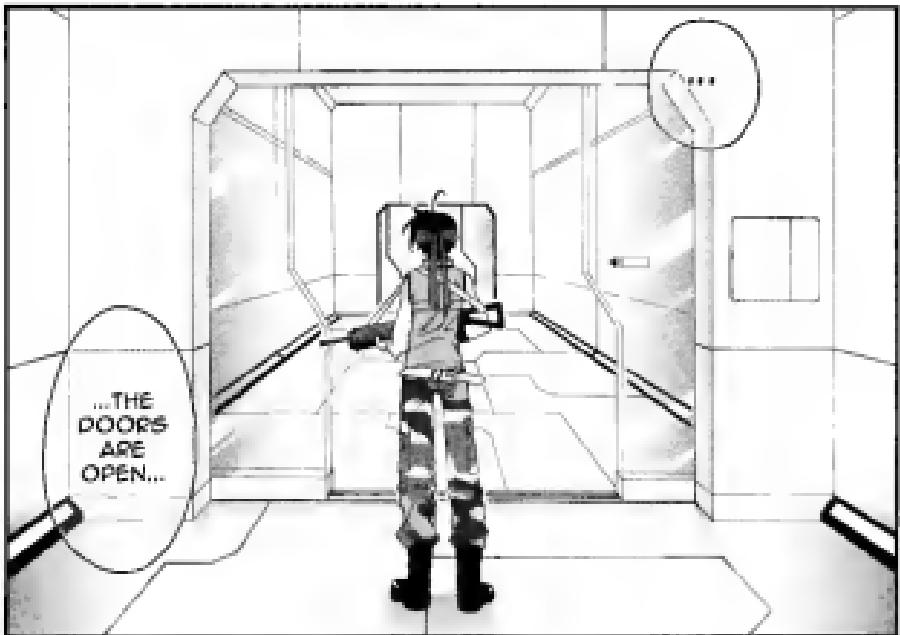


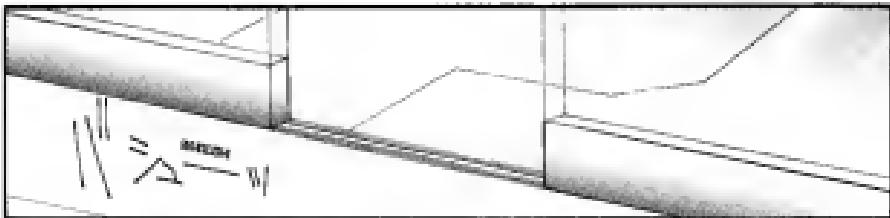




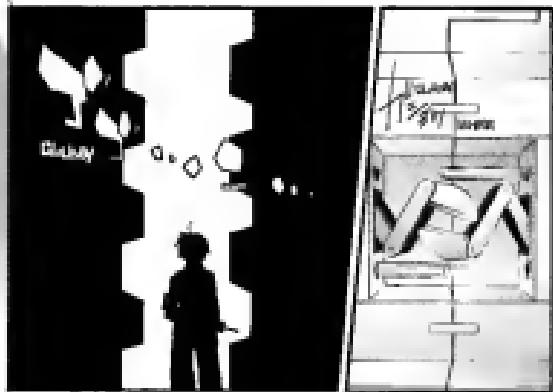
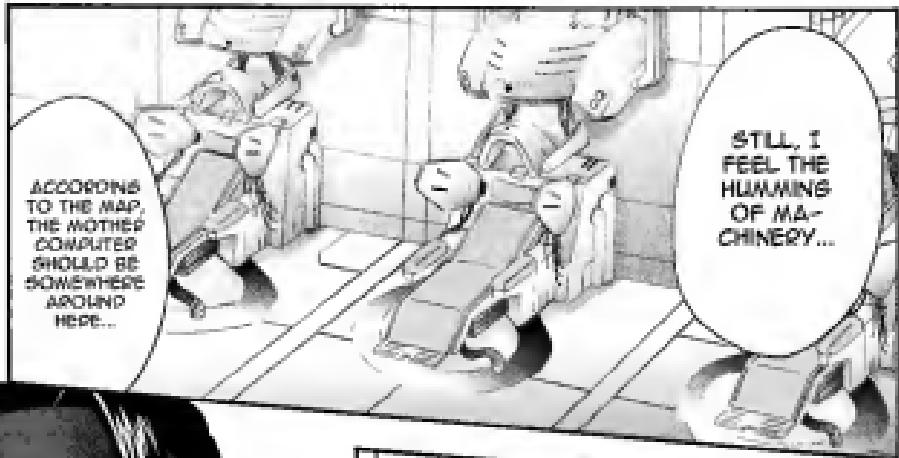








マザーキーパー①





マゾーキーパー①





BUT
STILL...
I CAN'T
JUST
LEAVE HER
HERE!

HI!

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?



IT'S NOT
SAFE FOR
YOU TO BE
HERE...

YOU
KNOW...
THIS PLACE
IS REALLY
DANGEROUS.

?

WANNA
COME
WITH ME?







WHO
IS THIS?
...I DON'T
THINK HE'S
ONE OF THE
ARMORED
TROOPS
..."

I DON'T
HAVE TIME TO
WASTE ON AN
UNPLANNED
FIGHT...

...BUT THEN,
SINCE I'VE
BEEN SHOT-
TO, GUESS
I'VE GOT NO
CHOICE.

HARD TO
BE SURE
FROM THE
CLOAK OVER
HIS HEAD,
BUT HE SEEMS
KINDA SMALL
FOR A SOL-
DIER...

BETTER
MAKE THIS
QUICK.....

BOOM







MAKE
THROUGH?





HE'S
GOT ME
PINNED!

CRAP!

WELL,
EVEN IF I
END UP
LOSING
HERE...

NOSH
...!!

WITHOUT
MAKING
A HIT!!



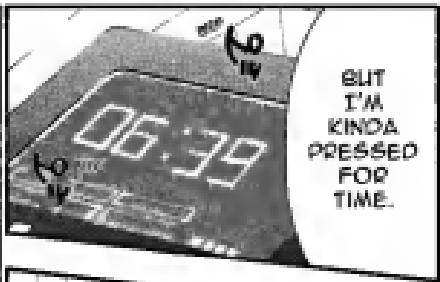
RAUSH
!!!

WON'T
GO
DOWN

GUH!!

FWAB





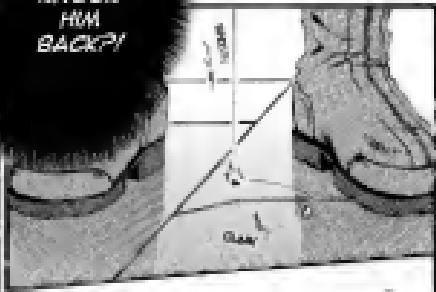
マツーキーパー①







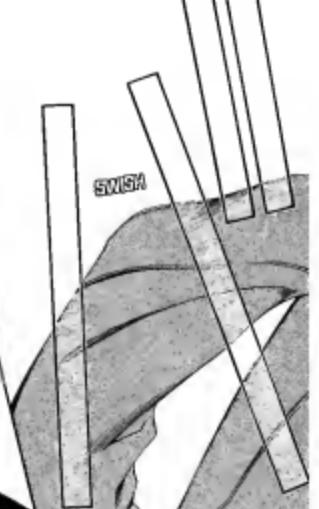












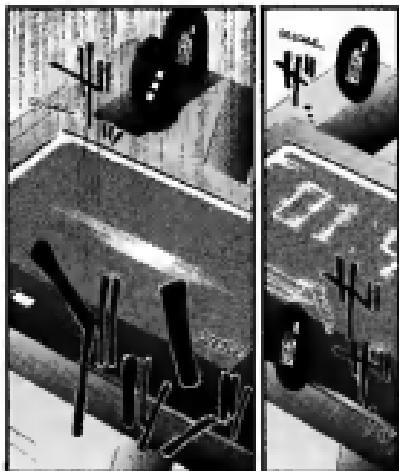


I
GAM

...GET
UP...

...ANYMORE...





マザーキーパー①

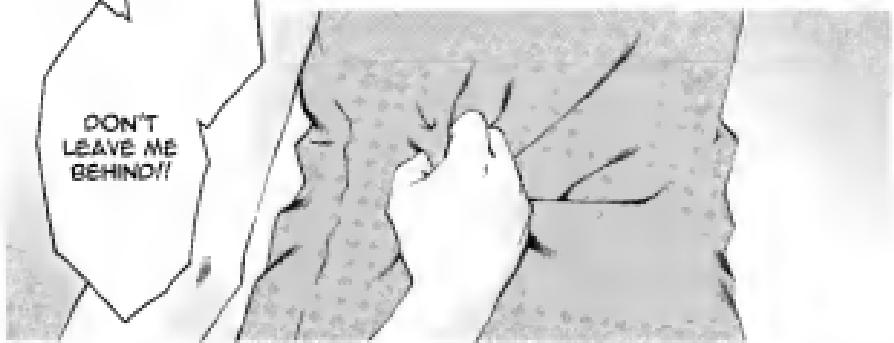




マザーキーパー①







BUT—
BUT THEN
YOU'LL
LOSE,
RICKY!

YEAH,
AND I'LL
BE REALLY,
REALLY
NERVOUS
WITHOUT
IT...

JUST
LIKE
THAT.

AHHHH...!

IT'S
THE
LUCKY
PENDANT
MR.
GRAHAM
GAVE
YOU!

BUT,
RICKY...
THIS
IS...



...I'LL
JUST
HAVE TO
COME
BACK
FOR IT.

'CAUSE
I'LL BE
SOOO
UNHAPPY
...

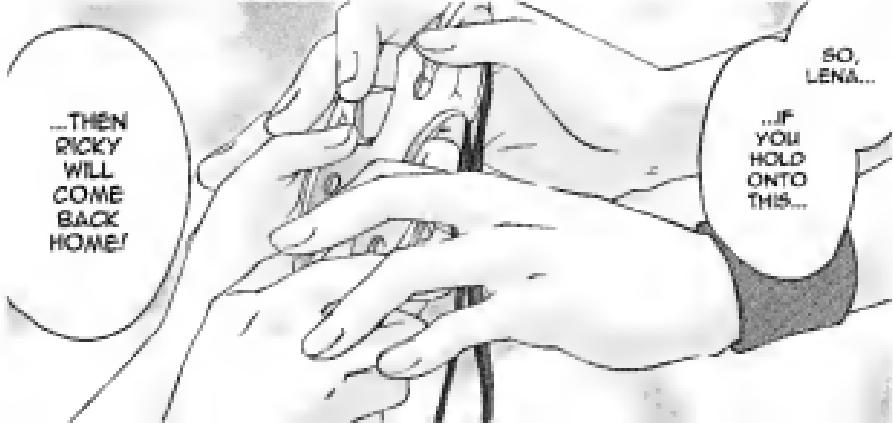
IT'LL
BE
FINE!



...THEN
RICKY
WILL
COME
BACK
HOME!

SO,
LENA...

...IF
YOU
HOLD
ONTO
THIS...



I'LL
BE SURE
TO COME
BACK TO
YOU,
LENA.

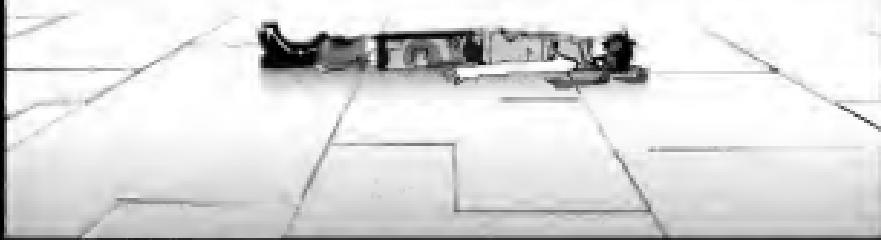




No.002_MOTHER

...AM I?

WHERE...



...OH.

NOW I
REMEMBER.



...AND BLOW
UP THE MOTHER
COM-
PUTER.

MY
MISSION
WAS
TO INFIL-
TRATE
EDEN...

WHAT
IN THE
WORLD
AM I...?

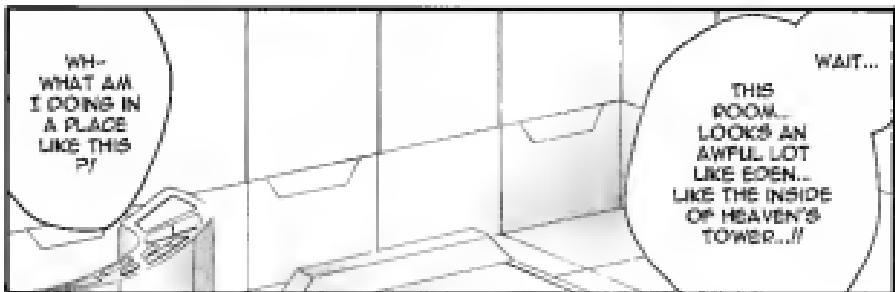


MY
BODY
FEELS
HEAVY...



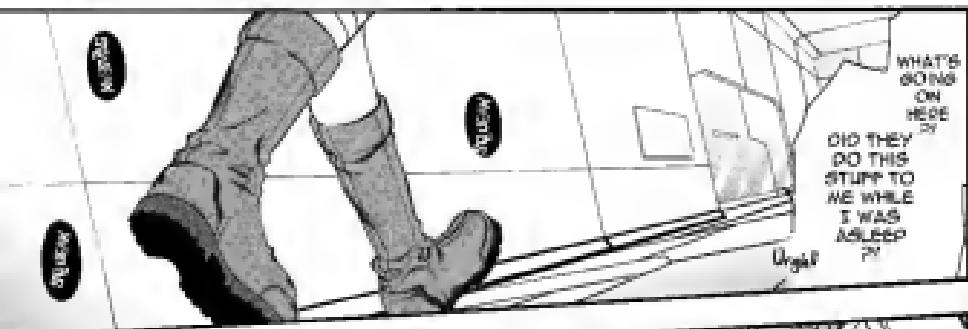


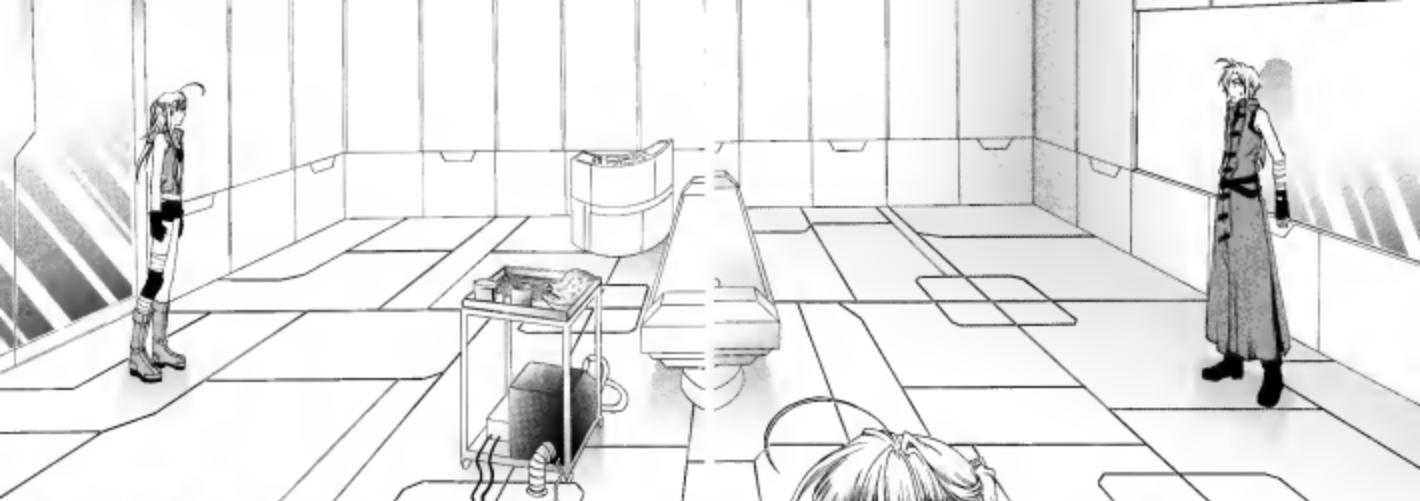
マスター・キーパー①





マザーキーパー①









WHY
THE HELL
WOULD
YOU HELP
A RESIS-
TANCE
FIGHTER
?!

YOU'RE
PEOPLE
FROM
EDEN...
FROM
HEAVEN'S
TOWER!!

I SHOULD
THANK YOU
FOR SAVING
ME, BUT...

- SHEESH!
ALL YOU
RESISTANCE
GUYS
EXPECT
THE SAME
THING!!

NO,
WE'RE
NOT!!

YOU GET
CAUGHT,
YOU GO
DIRECTLY
TO JAIL.

Bunch of
idiots

CLICK

WELL...
AREN'T
YOU?

WHY
DO YOU
THINK?

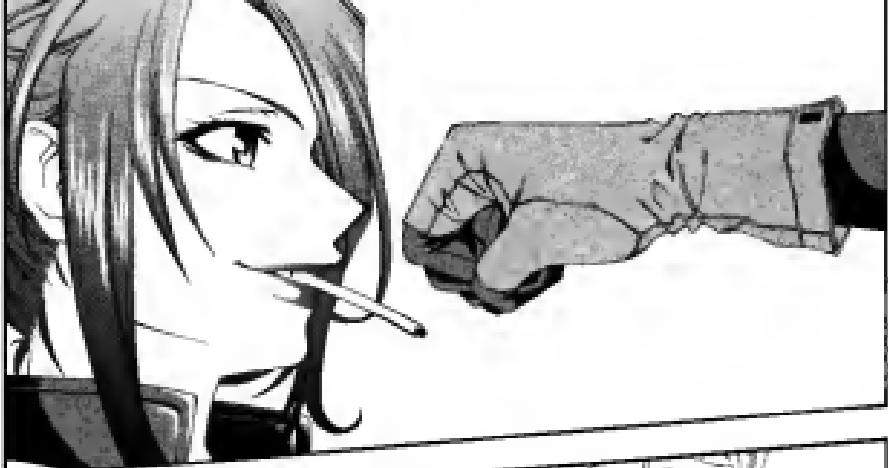
THAT NOW
YOU'RE OUR
PRISONER,
AND WE'RE
GOING TO
TORTURE YOU
UNTIL YOU
SPILL YOUR
SECRETS?

... YOU
RESISTANCE
GUYS
NEVER
STOP
FIGHTING
AMONG-
YOUR-
SELVES...
KNOW
WHY?

DESPITE
THE FACT
YOU HOLD
THE SAME
IDEOLOGY,
AND ARE
TRYING TO
ELIMINATE
THE SAME
ENEMY...

WHAT'D
YOU SAY
?!







THAT'S
WHY I LURED
YOU INTO
AREA O.

IF WE
CAN JUST
IGNORE YOUR
COGNITIVE
IMMATURETY
AND LACK OF
SCHOLARSHIP,
YOU'RE EXACTLY
THE SORT OF
RAW MATERIAL
I'VE BEEN
LOOKING
FOR.

YOU HAVE
WELL-HONED
COMBAT TECH-
NIQUES AND
A QUICK MIND,
COMBINED WITH
THE PHYSICAL
STRENGTH AND
REFLEXES NEEDED
FOR APPLYING
THOSE SKILLS
IN BATTLE.

DID YOU
REALLY THINK
RESISTANCE
INTEL WAS
ENOUGH TO
GET YOU THAT
FAR INSIDE
AREA O?

OF
COURSE.
WHAT?

LURED
ME
...?

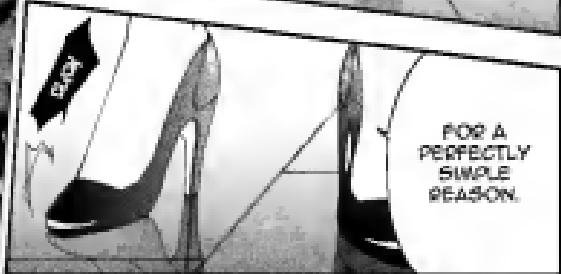
THAT'S
RIGHT...

THIS PLACE
IS SO TOP
SECRET, NOT
EVEN THE
PRESIDENT
CAN ENTER
WITHOUT MY
PERMISSION.

ME.

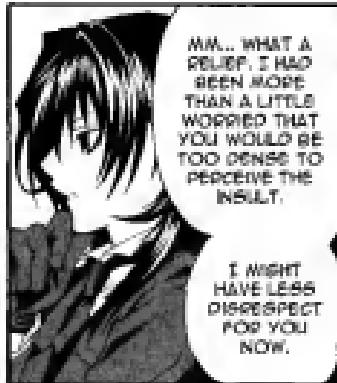
...YOU
MEAN...
THAT GATE
WAS
OPENED
BY...

I WANT YOU TO DEFEND THE MOTHER COMPUTER AGAINST THE RESISTANCE TROOPS.









THIS
GUY
PISSES
ME OFF
...!!

WELL,
I SHALL
ENDEAVOR
TO STifle
MY MORE
SUBJECTIVE
OPINIONS.
DURING
BATTLE AT
LEAST.

LINT ISN'T
VERY GOOD
AT TAKING
THE HINT.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
SYAL...

SORRY,
SYALNA!

EMOTIONS,
PARTICULARLY
HATEFUL ONES,
CAN BE
EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT TO
CONTROL...

HOWEVER,
A CYBORG
BRain IS
STILL
HUMAN.

WAUGH...!!!!

Er, what about—

SOON
TO BE
WORKING
WITH
YOU!

MY
NAME'S
SYAL
FINEDED.

JUST
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN
BY—

UH...
SURE

TAKING
THE...
HINT?



IT'S
LIKE I'M
A WHOLE
DIFFERENT
PERSON
WHEN I
START
FIGHTING,
KNOW
WHAT I
MEAN?

I
SOMETIMES
OVERDO
THINGS...
LIKE, HOW
I ENDED
UP KILLING
YOU IN
THAT
MESSY
WAY...





HUH,
COM-
RADES

IT'D
BE NICE
IF WE
WERE
LIKE
THAT...

TO BE
SUDDENLY
DRAINED INTO
ENEMY TERRITORY AND ORDERED TO
FIGHT AGAINST HIS
FORMER COM-
RADES...

THOSE
OF THE RESI-
STANCE HAVE A
PARTICULARLY
STRONG SENSE
OF CAMARADE-
SHIP. HE WON'T
SURRENDER SO
EASILY.

BY THE
WAY,
SYAL...

I CAN'T
ABIDE
IDIOTS.

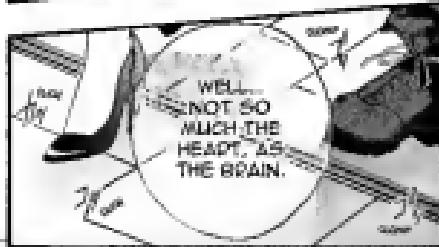
I'M
AFRAID
I MUST
REFUSE.

BLOOP
AS
EVER,
LINT.
Hehehehe

OOPSIE!
TIME
TO GET
BACK TO
WORK!

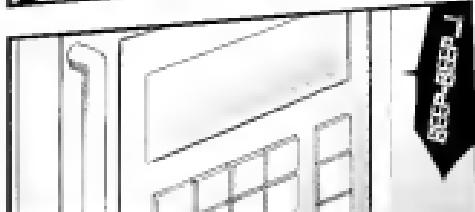
BOOM BOOM BOOM

WHAT DID
YOU MEAN
WHEN YOU
SAID I CAN'T
"TAKE THE
HINT"?





マツーキーパー①



マザーキーパー①



WITH
SILENCE
MAY HAVE
BECOME
A CURE.

THESE
WENT TO A
CROSS.

A MOTHER
KEEPER...



ONLY
ONE THING
STILL LAY
WITHIN MY
GRASP.

THE
GEARS KEPT
TURNING,
INWAYS
BEYOND
MY UNDER-
STANDING.

WHILE I
SLEPT, THE
MACHINERY
HAD MOVED
ON, PAST
THE POINT
OF NO
RETURN.

MY MISSION TO DESTROY
THE MOTHER COMPUTER...

...WAS
ALL THAT
REMAINED.



No.003..OPEN COMBAT



...THE
MOTHER
COMPUTER
?

TH-
THIS
LITTLE
GIRL
IS...

SERIE
ODDLY
?!

YEAH
OF
COURSE
SHE IS.

OHHH...
SO YOU
THOUGHT
THAT WAS
MOTHER?

IF...
IF SO,
THEN...

WHAT
THE HELL
IS THIS
HUGE THING
SUPPOSED
TO BE?!



THIS
THING'S
CALLED THE
ULTRA-
ENERGY
UNIT.

IT
GENERATES
THE ELECTRICITY
FOR
ALL OF
EARTH.

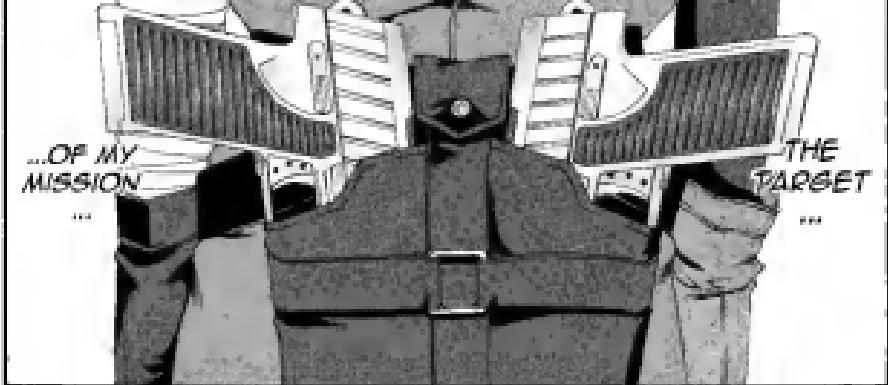
A
NUC
-RY

PSYCHE

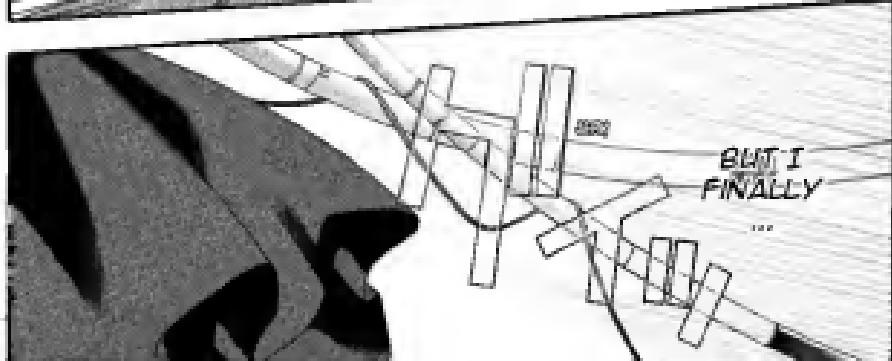
THAT'S
NO COMPUTER.
IT'S A NUCLEAR
POWER RE-
ACTOR.

WHAT
ELSE IS THE
NUCLEUS
COMPUTER



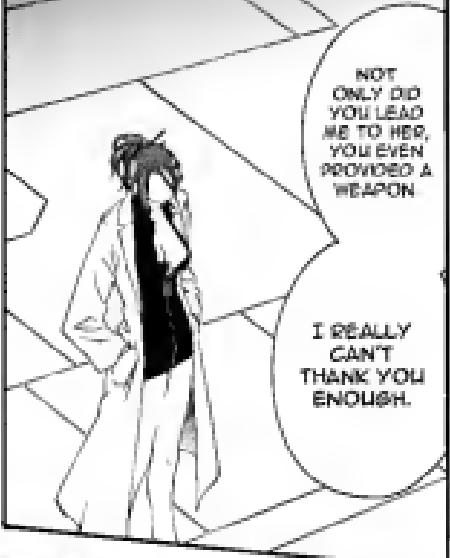


IT
TOOK
ME A
WHILE





MADE
IT
THROUGH









THIS ALLOWS FOR A VARIETY OF BEHAVIOR.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY ...

MOTOR NEURONS FOR PERFORMING AN ACTION ARE PARTNERED WITH SENSORY NEURONS FOR RECOGNIZING THE OBJECT OF AN ACTION.

...THE AI SYSTEM DECIPHERS THE SIGNALS FOR SPECIFIC ACTIONS TOWARDS SPECIFIC TARGETS.

IN THE CASE OF CY-BODIES

AND THEN LOCKS THEM DOWN.

...THAT'S MY GIRL.

There Heeee

3









マザーキーパー①

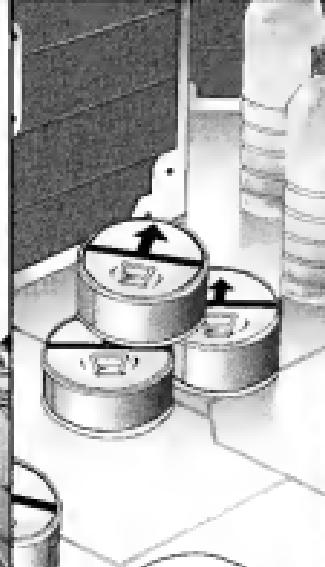
IN
CASE
YOU'VE
FORGOTTEN,
LET ME
REMIND
YOU.



HUH
...?

THE
RESISTANCE
ACTS ALL HIGH
AND MIGHTY,
WHEN THEY'RE
JUST ENVIOUS
OF OUR
PEACEFUL AND
PROSPEROUS
LIVES.

TRY
LOOKING
BEYOND
ALL
THAT.



BECAUSE
OF EDEN,
YOU'RE ABLE
TO SURVIVE IN
THE WASTELAND
OUTSIDE THANKS
TO OUR "LEFT-
OVERS".

BECAUSE
OF EDEN,
WE HAVE
CLEAN
WATER AND
AGRICULTURE.





OR
IS THERE
SOME OTHER
PURPOSE FOR
THE RESIS-
TANCE?



IN
WHICH
CASE, WHAT
ARE YOU
FIGHTING
FOR?



THEIR
TIMING IS
IMPEC-
CABLE...!

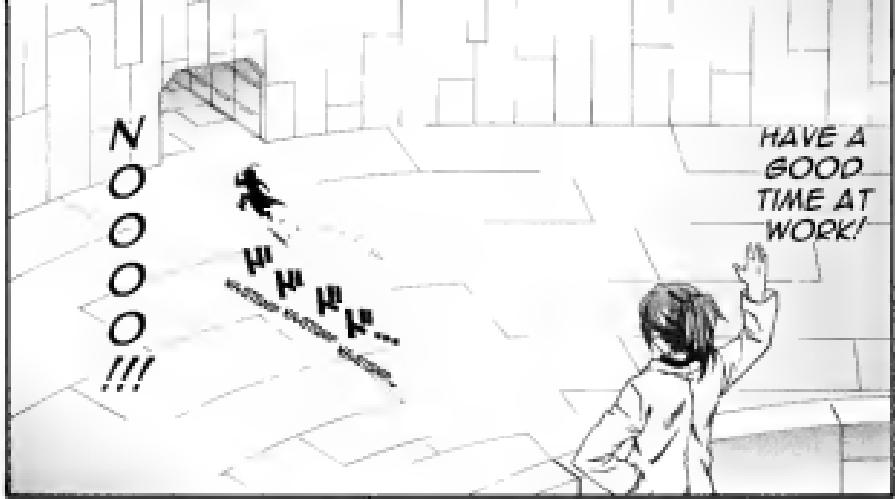
Resistance
fighters have
infiltrated
the Tower.
Their current
locations are
Areas III
and V.

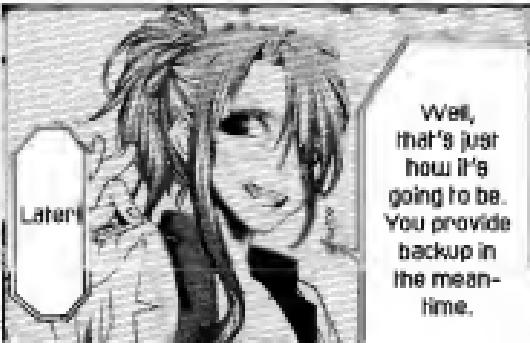


マーキーバー①









マツーキーパー①







ACTIVATED.



GENOCIDE
MODE:





AREA III.
SYAL MADE
CONTACT
WITH FOUR
RESISTANCE
FIGHTERS
14 SEC-
ONDS
AGO.



CASUAL
TIER,
LIGHT

AREA V.
ARMED
ED TROOPS
CURRENTLY
ENGAGED
IN BATTLE

What's
the
situation,
Link?



Don't
lose
focus.



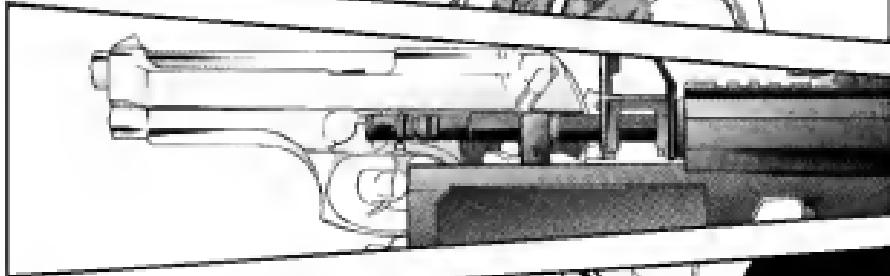
The
security in
Area III is
relatively
sparse by
Heaven's
Tower
standards.

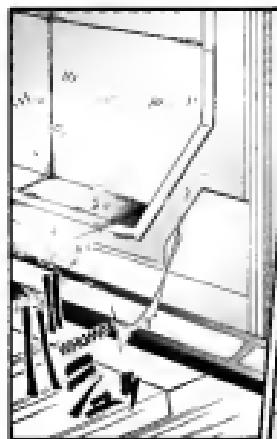


THAT
PHRASE
IS NOT DE-
FINED IN MY
COMMAND
TABLE.



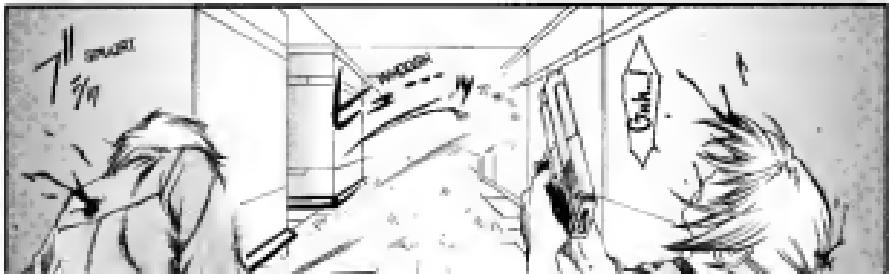
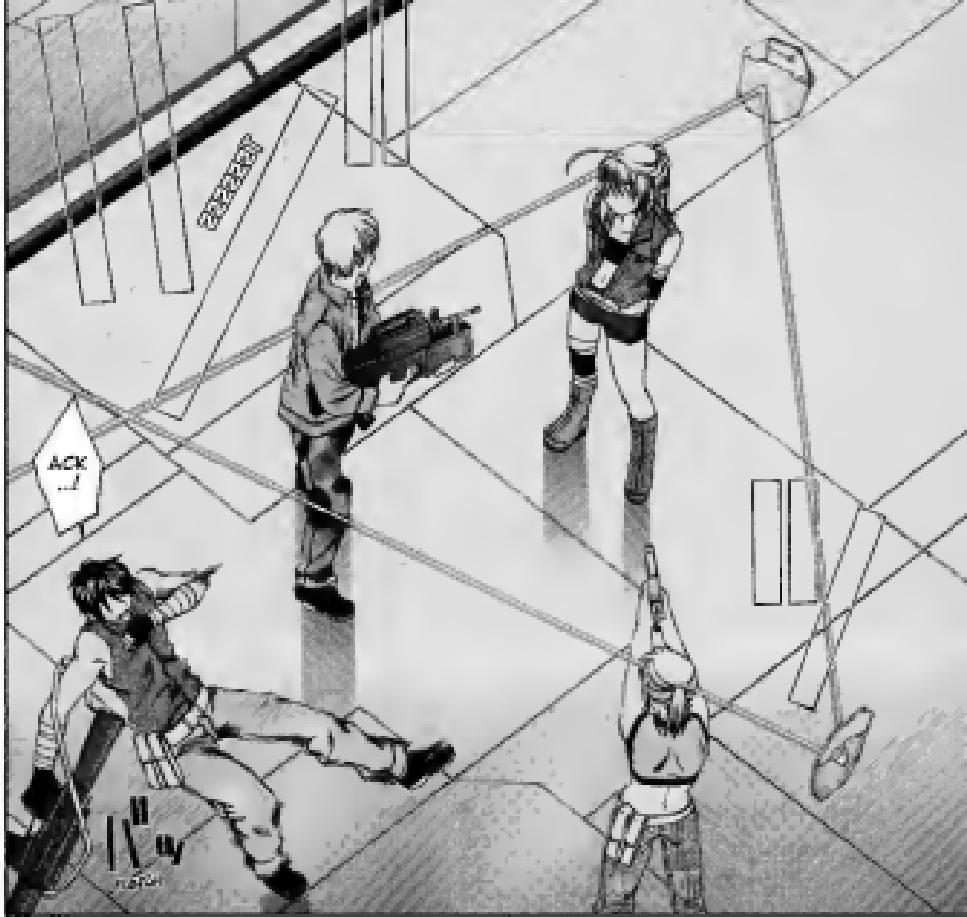
No.004 OPEN COMBAT_2





マザーキーパー①









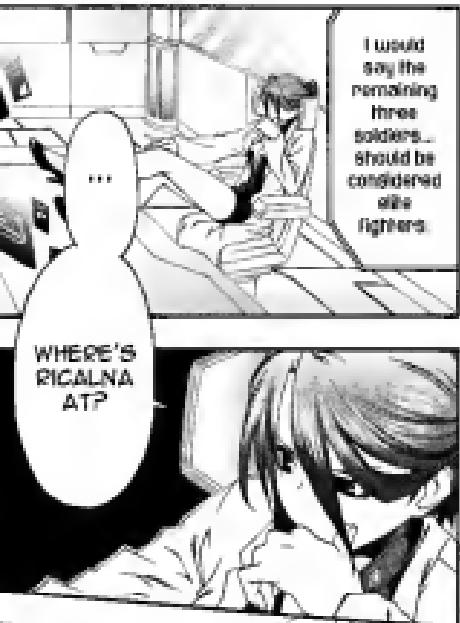
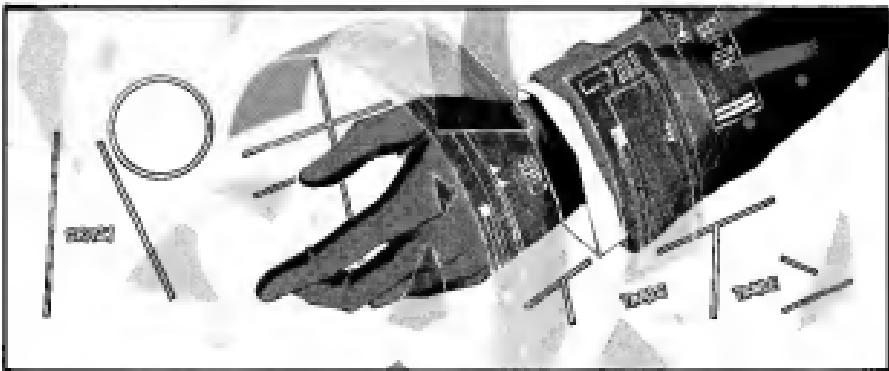








マーキーパー①



I would say the remaining three soldiers... Should be considered elite fighters.

WHERE'S RICALNA ATP?



PANELS
133 AND
134:



Hey.



I'M NOT
GOING TO
FOLLOW
YOUR
ORDERS

Grand
grants
work

**...I
TOLD
YOU**

What
do you
think
you're
doing?

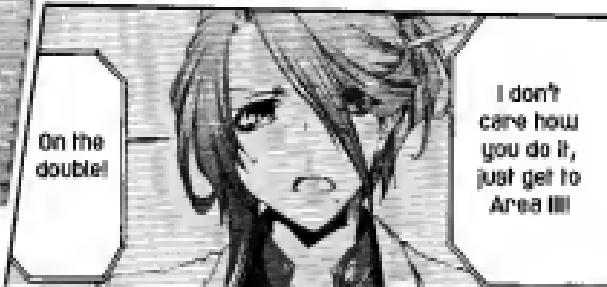


DAMN
THIS
AUTO
COMBAT
MODE!



THEY'RE
TOYING
WITH
ME...

On the double



I don't
care how
you do it,
just get to
Area III

I'M NOT
WORKING
FOR EDEN,
EVEN IF IT
KILLS ME!!

AT LEAST...
EVEN IF THEY
CAN FORCE
SOME OF MY
MOVEMENTS,
THEY HAVEN'T
GOTTEN
ABSOLUTELY
EVERYTHING
UNDER AT
CONTROL...

FOR
NOW...
I'LL JUST
KEEP
HOLDING
OUT
AGAINST
THEM!

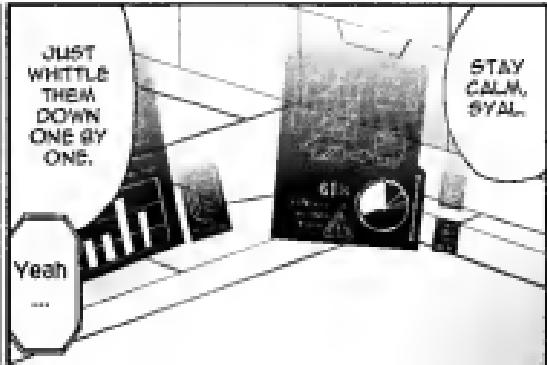
I AM
PART
OF THE
RESIS-
TANCE,
AFTER
ALL./













THAT
RICALNA'S
JUST TOO
DAMN
STUBBORN







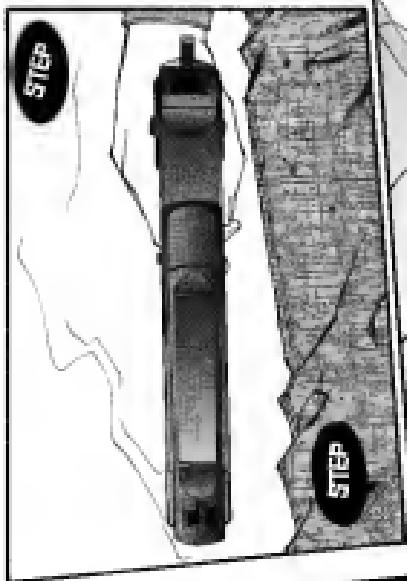




RICALNA
!!

HURRY
!!!





STEP

STEP



STEP



STEP



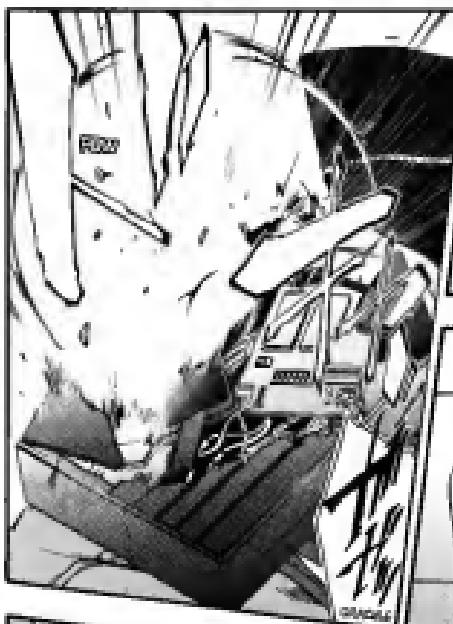


No.005 VS



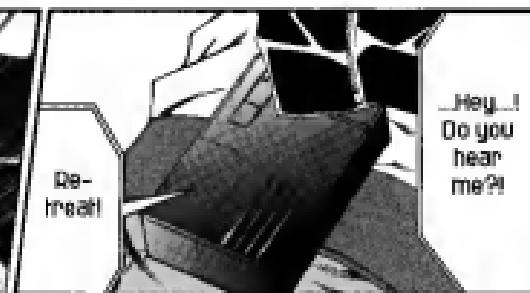


Team
Decoy
here.



Re-
treat!

Hey...
Do you
hear
me?!



SHOULDN'T
YOU BE GOING?



THEN
WHY DID
YOU
JOIN THE
RESIS-
TANCE?

FOR YOUR
INFORMATION,
I DON'T CARE
ONE BIT ABOUT
THE PLANS AND
IDEALS OF THE
RESISTANCE.

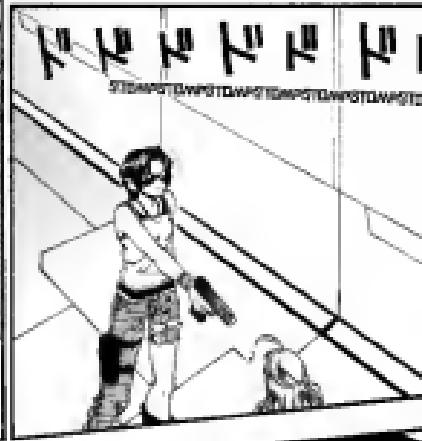
SIMPLE.

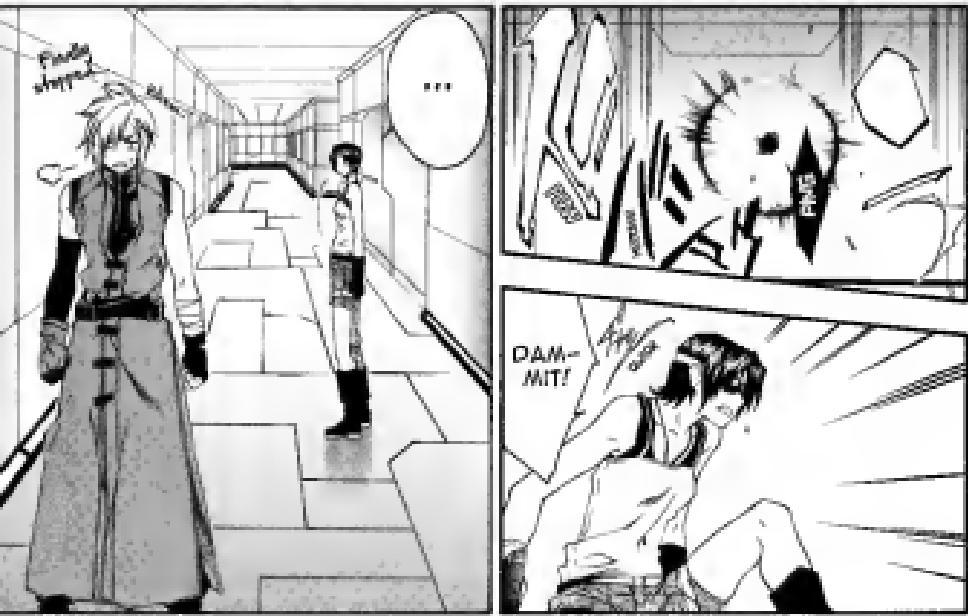
I DON'T
CARE
ABOUT
EDEN
OR THE
MOTHER
COMPUTER
EITHER.

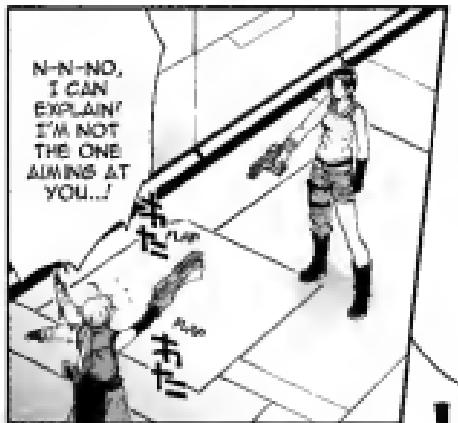
ALL
YOU,
MOTHER
KEEP-
ERS.

I
DESPISE
YOU.

! GUY
BILLY







...A
LITTLE
HARD TO
BELIEVE
WHEN
YOU'RE
POINTING
A GUN
AT ME.





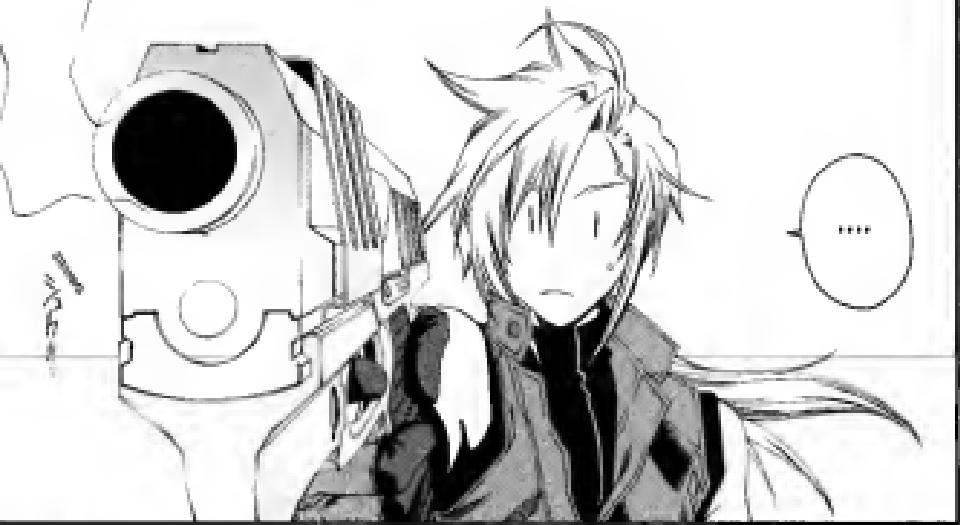


マザーキーパー①









IT'S
EXTREMELY
HEAVY FOR
A HANDGUN...
BUT THAT'S
NONE OF
YOUR CON-
CERN...



THE
BARREL IS
375 MM,
WEIGHT
4019 G.

THE TWIST-
RATE STARTS
OUT LOW... THEN
INCREASES NEAR
THE MUZZLE
TO STABILIZE
THE BULLET
TRAJECTORY.

I'VE MADE
A FEW SLIGHT
IMPROVEMENTS
TO THE PIPING
TO ALLOW
ACCURATE
SHOTS OF
HIGH-CALIBER
AMMUNITION
FROM SUCH
A SHORT
BARREL.





AS A RESULT,
THE MUZZLE
FLASH BURNS
THE WIELDER'S
ARMS, AND THE
RECOIL WILL BREAK
THE WIELDER'S
BONES... AND
SEND EVEN THE
BEEFIEST OF
MEN FLYING
BACKWARDS.

EACH
BULLET HAS
AN S-SHAPED
ETCHING IN
THE TIP, WHICH
FURTHER
SERVES TO
FACILITATE
EXPANSION
UPON IMPACT.

HOWEVER...
THE
IMPROVED
MUZZLE
VELOCITY
REQUIRES
RIDICU-
Lously
POTENT
GUNPOW-
DER.

YEAH, IF
I COULD
JUST FIRE IT
AT YOU, IT'D
BE THE BEST
GUN EVER.

So it's
a monster
only you can
control —
don't you
just love
it?

BUT
THANKS TO
YOUR SPECIAL
ARMORING,
YOU'VE GOT
SUFFICIENT
DURABILITY
TO WITHSTAND
ALL THAT.

Like
your
dad
the
old
man
that
lived
in
the
forest
and
had
the
ability
to
make
things
magical

NOT TO
MENTION,
YOU'RE
"HEAVY".

HE ALSO
SLOWS
DOWN AFTER
STARTING
AN ATTACK...
BUT WHY?

IT'S LIKE
HE'S SET-
TING UP
SHOTS
WITH
DEADLY
ACCURACY,
THEN DELIBER-
ATELY MIS-
AIMING.

...WHAT
IN THE
WORLD IS
THIS GUY
DOING?

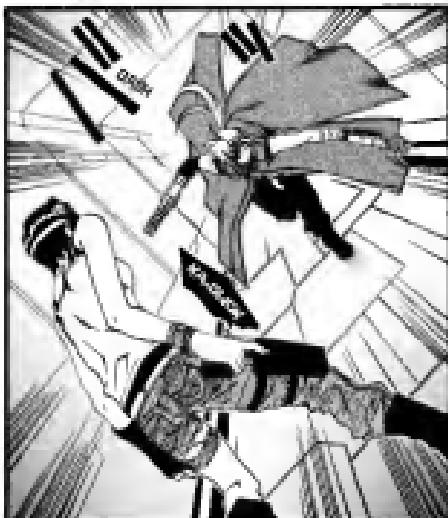
IN
THAT
CASE
...

...HMM... THIS
DOES GIVE ME AN
ADVANTAGE. THAT
GUN'S PRETTY
POWERFUL, BUT
YOU COULD SAY
THAT POWER IS
ALL IT'S GOT
GOING FOR IT.

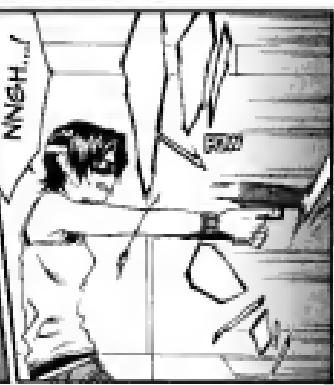
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...also
works
for
melee
combat!

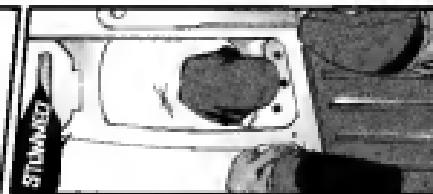




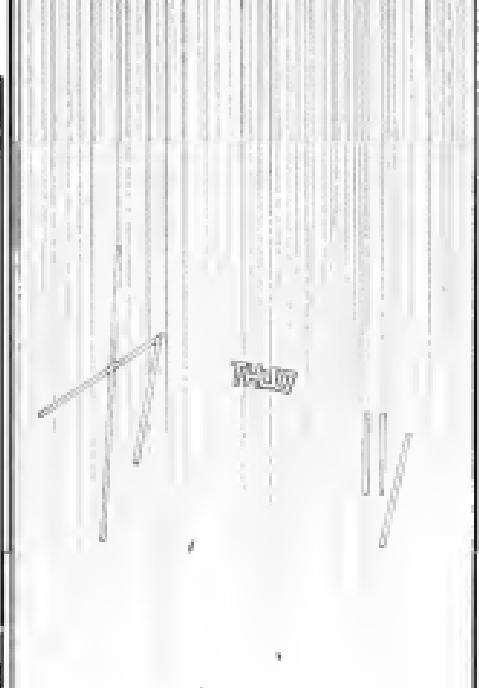








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MOTHER KEEPER :01

* Greetings to all of you who've enjoyed my work since Monochrome Factor and Christ: Orange-Eyed Messiah, as well as those first reading me with Mother Keeper. I'm Kali Sorana. Yay! This is my first monthly series! Well... I've been wanting to do McKeep for some time, but things kept coming up... [sweatdrops] Honestly, I was really worried it wouldn't ever see the light of day. I'm thrilled that I could get this out to all of you.

* I mentioned this in the magazine, but the truth is, I originally planned for the story in the first six chapters to take up just one chapter. But when drawing the storyboards, I'd already gone over 100 pages while still just partway through. "It's impossible!" I thought, so I whittled it down bit by bit and split it in. Because McKeep is much more action-oriented than anything else I've drawn so far, it's inevitable for the page count to pile up... But personally, it was really, really fun to draw Recalna and Sigal and Lena flying and leaping. I'd like to study more, so I can draw even more intense action scenes from now on.

* In case you're wondering why the bonus page is in such a weird location... I normally set aside about two extra pages while drawing the main work, but this time I got a little careless and miscounted the pages. I remember my irritation when, after I finished drawing No.005, my editor told me, "There's no room for my bonus pages this time." (Laugh) Well, I was sad about that, so I managed to squeeze in this single page.

* The series will be getting longer, and I have lots and lots of time, so I'll make sure to draw it properly... Well, that's obvious, though I pray we'll meet again in the second volume.



* SPECIAL SHANKS

»EDITOR: Yoshihira Iida
»ASSISTANT: Koike - Yukko
Razoku - Minami
Macch~